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#4 Pre-Amendment A  
PATENT  
D.J.Townsend 08/07/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 914619133 US

Applicant : Vance E. Bolding et al.  
Application No. : Not Assigned  
Filed : March 29, 2002  
Title : HORIZONTAL DRILL PIPE RACKER AND  
DELIVERY SYSTEM  
Docket No. : 39373/HAC/G602

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a

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
March 29, 2002

Commissioner:

In connection with the filing of the enclosed National Stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371, and before determination of the filing fee payable therein, please amend claim 32 to be as follows:

32. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 25 in which the place of pipe use is a well drilling facility which includes a drilling operations platform.

REMARKS

The purpose and effect of this Preliminary Amendment is to cause claim 32 not to be a multiple dependent claim, and to eliminate 37 CFR § 1.16(d) from consideration in the determination of the filing fee payable for this § 371 application.

A version of claim 32 showing the before and after amendment content of the claim is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By   
Hayden A. Carney  
Reg. No. 22,653  
626/795-9900

HAC/sad

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